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DATE OF ANNUAL MEETING CHANGED

The sixth annual meeting of the C.M.A. will be held at Indianapolis the last week in October, as previously announced, but the dates of the meeting will be October 27 to 29, instead of 29 to 31, as originally planned. Headquarters for the convention will be the Claypool Hotel.

The Indiana State Teachers Association holds its annual meeting at Indianapolis October 30 to 31. In view of the number of batchelors belonging to the C.M.A., it has been decided that attendance at our sessions will be more satisfactory, if we do not attempt to compete with the schoolmarms. This change makes our meeting coincide in point of time with the National Association of Commercial Organization Secretaries, however we are assured that there will be no serious conflict and the hotel promises to take good care of us.

The final draft of our program is not yet ready for publication, but we have progressed far enough with it to be able to give absolute assurance that it will be the best yet. Each man attending will have plenty of opportunity to take part in the discussions, and we shall keep away from the formal, old-fashioned convention atmosphere. The few outside speakers whom we have invited in, while experts in their line, have been advised that the addresses are to be short and all subjects thrown open for debate. One feature is definitely announced, that is the "story" luncheon at which each manager is to tell in two minutes his most unique experience while serving as manager.

Room reservations may be made direct with the Claypool Hotel or thru our Mr. Robert E. Tracy of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce. All meetings will be open to everyone and city managers are urged to extend a most cordial invitation to the members of their city councils.

STORM BREWING AT KALAMAZOO

The commission-manager charter of Kalamazoo, Michigan, which has been in operation about a year and a half, is being assailed in the courts. Newspaper reports indicate that a certain disgruntled politician is back of the movement to overthrow the new plan. A former alderman who was defeated for election to the new commission has attacked the charter by starting quo warranto proceedings to compell the members of the city commission to show cause why they should

continue to hold office.

Many points are raised. It is claimed that proportional representation by which the commissioners were elected, is unconstitutional; that the mayor is not a mayor within the meaning of the law; that certain sections of the charter are contradictory and hence void, and that as to the present commission, "there aint no such animal".

We wish Manager Freeman the best of luck.

ALTOONA'S MANAGER PLAN SEEMS SECURE

In response to an item appearing in our last issue, expressing a fear that the return of partisan elections in Pennsylvania cities might affect the manager plan at Bethlehem and Altoona, most welcome assurance is found in a letter received from Manager H. G. Hinkle of Altoona. We take the liberty of quoting:

"It may be of interest to you to know that the present City Commissioners were, without any solicitation on their part, placed on both Democratic and Republican ballots, although two of the Commissioners are Republicans and two Democrats. All four Commissioners were overwhelmingly successful on the Republican ticket, the two Democratic members of the commission securing more votes on the Republican ticket than their Republican associates. On the Democratic ticket, three of the present Commissioners are unquestionably accorded the nomination. There is some doubt about the fourth Commissioner, who is one of the Republican members.

"This action on the part of the voters of this city indicates, we think, unquestionable endorsement of the Commission-Manager plan as it has been carried out in this city."

Manager Winton L. Miller of Bethlehem, is less optimistic as to the effect of partisan elections in his city. Peculiar local conditions lead him to believe that the position of commissioner would again become a political prize.

It will be remembered that these Pennsylvania cities created the position by ordinance under provisions of the Clark Act. The commissioners voluntarily surrender all or a large part of their own salaries to the city manager to whom they also delegate their administrative duties, they continuing to serve in a legislative capacity only.

It is difficult to imagine very many true party politicians handing over their little $2,500 salaries toward the employment of a city manager and unless the commissioners rise above party considerations as they have done in Altoona, the manager plan will make little progress in Pennsylvania under this reactionary legislation.

APPOINTMENTS AND OPENINGS

Openings previously reported and not known to have been filled are: Wichita, Kans.; McAlester, Okla.; Alcoa, Tenn.; Walters, Okla.; West Palm Beach, Fla.; Petoskey, Mich.; Salinas, Calif.; Anaheim, Calif.

Suffolk, Va. has appointed Richard H. Brinkley as city manager to take office October 1st, salary $3,000. Mr. Brinkley was formerly city engineer

of Suffolk and is an associate member of the C.M.A. This makes the fifty case of transfer from our associate to our active list.

A. B. Hungerford, reported as manager at Hudson, Kansas, and whom we were unable to locate, writes us as city manager of Augusta, Kansas, and inquires as to his chances of joining the C.M.A. We are advising him that there are still a few vacancies and that he will be quite welcome.

Clovis, N. Mex. is reported to have appointed Oscar Dubbs as city manager.

Sumter, S. C. has appointed W. T. Brown as its fifth city manager.

EXCELLENT REPORTS FROM NEW MANAGERS

The good reports coming in from some of our newer members will cause the older managers to speed up or move over toward the curb.

Mifflinburg, Pa., population 2,000, created the position of boro manager by ordinance last December, and appointed W. D. Kochersperger as manager January 1, 1919, at a salary of $2,000. He is a civil and hydraulic engineer and served as assistant city engineer of Philadelphia for twelve years. In Mifflinburg, a complete modern system of municipal accounts has been installed; many positions have been combined under one head; the boro streets have been paved with reinforced concrete by city labor at a cost of $1.49 per square yard against an average contract price of $2.89.

Lufkin, Tex., population 7,000 put its manager charter into effect May 1, 1919 with L. Mitchell as manager at $2,400. In less than five months, the following results have been achieved: The city had paid off $53,000 of old indebtedness and re-established its credit; has ordered a $100,000 bond election for street improvements, including 3½ miles of paving; added 122 new water customers and greatly increased the city revenues in many ways. A building campaign is under way and the permits issued so far this year exceed those for the corresponding period last year by 62. A modern Chamber of Commerce and a Building and Loan Association have been organized. Mitchell is but 29 years old and previously served for a short time as manager at Mangum, Okla.

Alliance, Neb., population 7,000, the first Nebraska city to employ a manager, appointed Cassius C. Smith, August 20, 1919; salary $3,000. Within the first month, Alliance adopted standard methods of electric wiring and plumbing inspection; established its police in comfortable quarters, developed a signal system and began better law enforcement. The new manager set up and started a 325 H.P.Skinner engine and direct drive 250 K.W. Westinghouse A. C. generator with boilers; let a contract for scraping, repairing and painting the city standpipe; had the city post houses renovated and equipped with lights and telephones. The city has let a contract for paving and storm sewers amounting to about $180,000.

Mr. Smith, however, can hardly be classed as a new manager. He served two years as manager at Montrose, Colo. prior to his recent promotion. Two sentences from a recent letter from Smith are significant: "It was through the City Manager Bulletin that I first heard of this position;" "I shall always feel that, in a measure, my annual report landed me this job."

Bristol, Va., population 9,000, appointed R. W. Rigsby as manager under its new charter, Sept. 1, 1919, salary $3,000. Immediately upon taking office, Mr. Rigsby was faced by a threatened shortage of the water supply at the very beginning of the dry season. Many complications, not the least of which was political, made the problem a difficult one. As it happens, the State line separating Tennessee from Virginia bisects Bristol and "the larger half" lies on the Tennessee side and controlls the water supply. The resulting tangle has been the source of irritation for generations and heroic measures had to be employed to relieve the distress. Rigsby is busy endeavoring to locate the sewer and water systems, neither of which seems to have been recorded in any way, shape or manner. A comprehensive survey is being undertaken as a first step toward a city plan.

CITIES CHANGING FROM COMMISSION TO CITY MANAGER PLAN

Within the past week, four more cities which are now operating under the commission form have expressed their dissatisfaction therewith, thru their chambers of commerce, and are investigating the city manager plan with a view to adoption. They are: Sacramento, Calif.; Waco, Tex.; Nowata, Okla.; and Traverse City, Mich.

MORE FORWARD-LOOKING CITIES

New Haven, Conn., with a population approximating 130,000, may be the next large commission-manager city. The Civic Federation, the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club have appointed a joint committee to investigate the plan and report.

Sarnia, Ontario, is receiving its preliminary training for city manager government by its wide-awake Chamber of Commerce. Strong articles on "Manager Plan of City Government" and "Proportional Representation" appear in the last issue of the Sarnian.

Danville, Va., population 30,000 is being prepared for a city manager charter campaign by its newly organized Young Business Men's Club.

Nowata, Okla. is planning to change from the commission form to the city-manager plan of government according to the business manager of its Chamber of Commerce.

Pueblo, Colo. is seriously considering the manager plan according to recent reports.

The Dubuque (Ia.) Daily News is about to start a campaign for a city manager for the city of Dubuque.

Youngstown, Ohio, has a Chamber of Commerce committee investigating city manager government.

Several Canadian cities and towns are writing in for information concerning the new plan.

C. E. Rightor who followed L. D. Upson as director of the Dayton Bureau of Municipal Research and is now with Upson in Detroit is the author of "City Manager in Dayton" published by Macmillan and to be put on the market in October.

One of the finest achievement reports coming to our attention is that published in the Daily Eagle of Bryan, Texas, Aug. 26, 1919. Reprints of it have been struck off and accompany Manager Greer's request for bids on Bryan's $75,000 bond issue. Mr. Greer's letter and attached data will be found of value to any manager planning a bond sale.

Kochersperger, the Mifflinburger, in joining the C.M.A. suggests that our organization will soon be known as "The American Society". It can't be done. We would be "breaking faith with the world" were we to thus dash the hopes of our prospective chapters in New Zealand and South Africa by such untimely limitations.

The New York Evening Post of August 29 and the Newark Evening News of Sept. 23 contain long editorials based upon the achievement reports in our fifth yearbook. You fellows who spent six months preparing yours should feel somewhat repaid.

Some cities which are planning charter campaigns have inquired as to prices of our yearbooks if ordered in quantities. We are quoting in lots of 100: #3, $8.; #4, $12.; #5, $15., f.o.b. New York City.

It is interesting to note that so far every manager who has ordered copies of our fifty yearbook for all members of his city council is being given leave of absence to attend the Indianapolis convention and having all his expenses paid by the city. Pretty good investment. Especially so, since the city pays for the yearbooks too.

Sallisaw, Okla., population 2,500, has voted in favor of a commission-manager charter which is now being drawn up and will be submitted at an early date.

Salaries of managers not previously reported in this bulletin are: Bonner H. Hill, Charleston, W. Va., $4,500; Herbert L. Kidd, Kingsport, Tenn., $3,000; H. P. Killeary, Montrose, Colo., $3,000; Glen A. Critchfield, Weatherford, Okla., $1,650. Critchfield is but 26 years old, and is an electrical engineer.

"City Managers in the United States" is the title of a leading editorial article in a recent issue of an English periodical, "Surveyor." It is based upon information found in our fifth yearbook.

The University of Montana's intercollegiate debate question this fall is The City Manager Plan. Fort Dodge, Iowa, advises that Iowa high schools are debating the same subject. Our yearbooks are meeting a cordial welcome.

W. C. Bailey of San Jose, Calif. is digging deep into problems of city finance in an effort to stretch the city's bank account over the gap left by the loss of liquor revenues.

C. A. Macomber, manager of San Anselmo, Calif., gets along in fine shape with all the members of his trustees, but one. This one, Macomber had the pleasure of arresting a short time before he was elected to office, and said trustee has a long memory. Incidentally, Macomber has divulged his age and supercedes John Collier of LaGrande, Ore., as senior deacon of our lodge. Macomber is 65, while John C. is only 62. Thos. Wilson of Manchester, Ia. is 63, and A. F. Hood of Durangeo, Colo., 62, but they are still prospective members of the C.M.A.

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Lent D. Upson, director of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research and lecturer at the University of Michigan in mumicipal administration, is to be with us at Indianapolis and give us some ideas on "The Training of City Managers".

The address of E. O. Heinrich, formerly manager of Boulder, Colo., is now 1001 Oxford St., Berkeley, Calif. He is holding down the chair of criminology at the University of California.

NEW MEMBERS C. M. A.

Active: R. H. Brinkley, City Manager, Suffolk, Va.; G. A. Critchfield, City Manager, Weatherford, Okla.; R. P. Killeary, City Manager, Montrose, Colorado; Wm. D. Kochersperger, City Manager, Mifflinburg, Pa.; L. Mitchell, City Manager, Lufkin, Texas.

Associate: H. J. Bridgeman, City Engineer, Junction City, Kans.; The Evening Independent, Massillon, Ohio; E. T. Murchison, Civil Engineer, Chicago, Ill.; John Richardson, Sec. Chamber of Commerce, Winchester, Va.; R. E. Spear, Civil Engineer, Chicago, Ill.; Traverse City Chamber of Commerce, W. J. Hobbs, Sec., Traverse City, Mich.